



Staff News

The Electronic Newsletter About YA Staff — For YA Staff
May 24, 2000

Vol. 2 Issue 02

Secretary Presley Honored for Public Service

YACA Secretary **Robert Presley** was recently awarded the Distinguished Service in Government Award from the Institute for Legislative Practice at the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law.

The Institute for Legislative Practice presents this award to an outstanding individual whose sustained commitment to leadership and public service is an inspiration to others who aspire to public and community service. "We are honoring Robert Presley with our fifth annual presentation of this award, because he sets an example for everyone who is interested in good government." Said Professor **Clark Kelso**, director of the Institute for Legislative Practice and Governmental Affairs Program, in announcing the selection.

Professor Kelso served as master of ceremonies during the ceremony. The line-up of those wanting to also pay Mr. Presley tribute included **Don Novey**, president of the California Correctional Peace Officers' Association, former State Assemblyman **Dave Stirling**, Mr. Presley's former Chief of Staff **David Townsend**, and El Dorado County Sheriff **Hal Barker**, president of the California Peace Officers' Association.

Mr. Presley also serves as chairman of the Board of Corrections and as acting chair of the Youthful Offender Parole Board. He was appointed secretary in January 1999. Gov. Pete Wilson originally appointed Mr. Presley, after having served in the State Senate from 1974 to 1994. He was chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee; the Senate Select Committee on Children and Youth, the Senate Select Committee on California's Business Climate, and the Joint Legislative Prisons Committee. Mr. Presley's commitment to the people of the State of California and the nation has not gone ignored over the years.

Mr. Presley was awarded the Bronze Star for Heroic Achievement in Action while serving with the Fifth Army in Italy during World War II. He was named "Legislator of the Year" by numerous statewide associations of diverse interests, such as the California Peace Officers' Association, State Parks and Recreation Association, the County Supervisors' Association, the Family Services Council of California and the Chief Probation Officers' of California.

Mr. Presley has always been the consummate public servant, and truly, a gentleman Legislator, in the classic sense.

Helping Victims YA Video

By
Cynthia Florez-DeLyon
OPVS Victims Services Specialist

The Office of Prevention and Victims Services (OPVS) is pleased to announce the release of its *Helping Victims* video. This video project was made possible with funds provided by the department's Communication/Public Affairs Office and the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning.

Helping Victims was produced for the purpose of training victim/witness personnel, probation, and victims services providers on victims' rights in California and within the Youth Authority (YA).

OPVS released and distributed *Helping Victims* in December 1999 to every probation department, District Attorney's Office, victim/witness assistance center, YA institution, camp, parole office, and to victims services providers upon request. In addition, videos were sent nationally to corrections and victims services agencies.

The original intent of the video was to train local law enforce-

(Please see **High Acclaim**, pg 2)

YA Presence at PTA's 101st

By **Kat Barrie**
Legislative Coordinator

The California State Parent Teacher Association held its 101st annual convention May 4 - 7, at the Long Beach Convention Center. More than 3,000 delegates worked on resolutions that related to the well-being of California's school children.

The YA was represented at the conference by **Sharon Garcia**, victim services specialist, and **Kat Barrie**, legislative coordinator. Ms. Garcia spent the three days at the YA Office of Prevention and Victim Services booth, handing out information materials and answering many questions about the YA, its services and its educational programs. Ms. Barrie represented the department at the many workshops and working lunches she attended.

Gov. and Mrs. **Gray Davis** also addressed the delegates to the convention. Mr. Davis promised that his administration would provide more education money this year, and to provide more resources to positively impact the state's education system.

(Please see **OPVS picture**, pg 2)

CalPERS Long-Term Care Enrollment

CalPERS started an open enrollment period for the Long-Term Care Program on April 1, 2000, and will run through June 30.

All employees, tenures, and time bases are eligible and you don't have to be a PERS member. If you would like to request free information and an enrollment kit call 1-800-266-1050, or you may get pamphlets in your personnel office.

High Acclaim

(From pg 1)

ment and victim witness personnel regarding available victim services in YA with the hopes of transitioning victims and providing continuity of services. What OPVS has found is that the video has been extremely beneficial and useful within the department. For example, during National Crime Victims Rights Week, the video was shown to all staff and offenders at several YA institutions.

The video includes interviews with victims and offenders, which sends a powerful message on the impact of crime on victims and their families. Crime victims and their families share their experiences going through the criminal justice process and attending Youthful Offender Parole Board hearings. Offenders share their understanding of the impact of the crime on their victims.

Since the release of *Helping Victims*, OPVS has received positive reviews and many requests for the video. OPVS recently completed a video guide to accompany the video that can be used for training purposes. OPVS plans to produce a second video focusing on victim sensitivity for offenders and staff. Portions of the original footage and additional victim and offender testimony will be included in the second video.

If you would like more information regarding *Helping Victims* or would like to view a copy, please contact **Cynthia Florez-DeLyon** or **Rosemary Crisostomo** at (916) 262-1534. YA staff may contact their assigned institution, camp or parole office to view the video.

March of Dimes Final \$2,243.36

Evelia Amador, SSA, Free Venture, set a goal to beat the \$1,100 last raised for the March of Dimes and she and her committee doubled what was raised in 1998. We will have a complete story next edition.



OPVS Picture

Sharon Garcia, victim services specialist at the booth in Long Beach and Kat Barrie, legislative consultant, (behind the camera) at the 101st California PTA convention. The booth was so well attended and the subjects so interesting that Ms. Barrie and Ms. Garcia are already making plans for next year's convention where they will take new ideas generated by this experience. Gov. and Mrs. Gray Davis and 3,000 delegates attended the event.

Congratulations

2000 Excellence in Education Recipients

Wieden-Romero Life Long Achievement

M. James "Jim" Welch

Marie C. Romero High School

2000 Educator of the Year

Art Crawford

DeWitt Nelson High School

Volunteer-Tutor-Surrogate Parent

Ada Howell

Karl Holton High School

Office and Allied Services

Elizabeth "Liz" Stewart

DeWitt Nelson High School

Education Advocate

Eugenia Ortega

Karl Holton High School

Administrator

Ramon Martinez

CEA Southern Region Administrator

New Teacher

Kelli Savercool

Jack B. Clark High School

Teacher - High School

Art Crawford

DeWitt Nelson High School

Teacher-Basic Skills

Lennie Silva

DeWitt Nelson High School

Teaching Assistant

Cynthia "Cindy" Phillips

Jack B. Clark High School

Teacher-Career Vocational (Industrial Technology, Exploration, Building and Construction Technology)

Bruce Snider

Marie C. Romero High School

Teacher-Career-Vocational (Infor. and Related Technologies, Service Related Occupations)

J. Michael Wellenstein

Fred C. Nelles High School

Congratulations!

EEO Counselors are Now a Mouse Click Away

The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Office is moving as fast as technology evolves. According to **Arturo Fernandez**, assistant director EEO, Information Technology Division's **Ali Dorostkar** has made it possible for employees to connect directly with an EEO counselor with a mouse.

All employees need do is go to the EEO section of the YA Intranet, identify the EEO Counselor you want to reach, and double-click on the counselor's e-mail link. This will provide an e-mail formatted for that counselor. If this doesn't work, your computer may not be properly set-up. See your LAN manager for assistance. This reach into technology should provide employees quicker service from the EEO office.

Employees of the Month

March

NYCRCC
Mike Wright
Electrician

El Paso de Robles
Mike Ojeda
YCO
Ralph Garcia
YCO

April

El Paso de Robles
Holly Anderson
Instructor
Carla Morris
Instructor

May

DeWitt Nelson
K. D. McGhee
YCO

NYCRCC
Al Smith
YCO

Retirements

Janice Storey

O.T.
Intake & Court Services
Total State Service: 30 years
Retirement Date: May 31, 2000

Sharon Vihlene

Program Administrator
I & C Branch, Central Office
Total State Service: 29 years
Retirement Date: June 30, 2000

Barbara Emerick

YCC
Pine Grove Camp
Total State Service: 20 years
Retirement Date: July 5, 2000

DPA Survey on Work and Family on its Way

The statewide Work and Family Advisory Committee (WFAC), authorized under the 1999-2001 collective bargaining agreements, has begun the needs assessment survey process that will gather information on work and family issues from a random sample of 20,000 State employees.

By agreement with the UCLA Center for Labor Research, the survey will be mailed to participants' homes on June 5. The responses will serve as a basis for the WFAC's recommendations to the Department of Personnel Administration and Governor **Gray Davis** on work and family programs and policies, and options for expenditure of the \$5 million allocated in the budget for these programs and policies.

Take this opportunity to make a major difference in your own work life and that of your coworkers. If you receive a survey at your home, please take the time to complete and return it. Make your opinion count!

The Committee's final report will be issued in September 2000, and will be available in both hard copy and online at the WFAC's web page at www.dpa.ca.gov/workingfamilies.

Baby Front

Karl Holton High School Teaching Assistant **Jose Luis Ramirez** and his wife **Sophia** brought **Jose Luis Ramirez, Jr.** into the world on April 29. Master Ramirez weighed in at 7 lbs. 10 ozs.

At DeWitt Nelson, PA I **Aaron Jenkins** and wife **Juanita** are parents of twin boys, **Aaron** weighed 4 lbs. 4 ozs. and brother **Andrew** at 4 lbs. 11 ozs. The boys, born May 19, are healthy and should be home in two weeks.

It was Greatly Appreciated

DeWitt Nelson's YCC **Trudy Smith** wants everyone who donated to her catastrophic time bank account. Ms. Smith had a brain tumor removed.

"I want to thank you for all of the thoughtful things everyone has done for me and my family. Your kindness has helped in my recovery," Ms. Smith said. The YA family has come through again.

25 Years

Intake & Court Services

Thomas Blay

PA III

Joseph Antenucci

PA III

From the Editor

We want to thank those of you who responded to my public Q-Mail requesting information for this edition of the Staff News. Although not all of the information got into the edition, it will in the June 7 edition.

We also want to point out that we would like to publish stories from staff at all of our institutions and camps and parole, but we don't always get the information sent to us, so it seems one gets more than the others in some editions.



Staff News

The Electronic Edition

The *Staff News* is published on the first and third Wednesday of the month by the California Youth Authority's Office of Communications and Public Affairs.

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Please submit any stories or articles for publication during the second and fourth week of each month. Pictures must be 35mm or digital. When possible, submit your stories as attachments to an E-mail to:

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